REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-26 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 11-26 are independent. Claims 27-30 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1-26 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 5-8 and 11-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 5,517,250 to Hoogenboom (hereinafter, merely "Hoogenboom").

Claim 1, *inter alia*:

"An encoding system ...comprising:
counting means for counting fields in the input video data having a particular frame frequency; and
converting means, connected between said counting means and said encoding means, for converting the input video

> data having said particular frame frequency into video data with a
> second frame frequency,
> wherein said encoding means generates said time
> stamp information, based on said counting means."(emphasis
> added)

As understood by Applicants, Hoogenboom relates to a video decompression processor that acquires video data for a desired service from a packetized data stream. The data stream includes transport packets carrying different components of the desired service. Each component is identified by a unique packet identifier (PID). One of the components includes a program clock reference (PCR) providing timing information for the desired service. The PIDs of the transport packets are monitored to recover video packets. Header information from the recovered packets is processed to recover packetized elementary stream (PES) packets having a PES header and picture information. Time stamp information obtained from the PES header is appended to the picture information for storage in a video memory. Picture information can subsequently be read from the memory and decoded using the appended time stamp information without having to reaccess the PES header.

Applicants submit that Hoogenboom does not teach or suggest counting means for counting fields in the input video data having a particular frame frequency; and converting means, connected between said counting means and said encoding means, for converting the input video data having said particular frame frequency into video data with a second frame frequency, wherein said encoding means generates said time stamp information, based on said counting means, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, claim 1 is deemed patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, amended independent claims 11-26 are also believed to be patentable.

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III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 27-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable by Hoogenboom in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,568,165 to Kimura (hereinafter, merely "Kimura").

Claims 27-30 are hereby cancelled.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from independent claim 1, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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